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TRANSMITTAL LETTER
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Di Poto, et al.
App. No : 10/686,063
Filed : October 15, 2003
For : CANNULA FOR RECEIVING SURGICAL
INSTRUMENTS
Examiner : Unknown
Art Unit : 3731

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 13, 2006

(Date)

Sabing H. Lee, Reg. No. 43,745

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

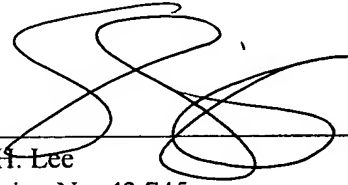
P.O. Box 1450

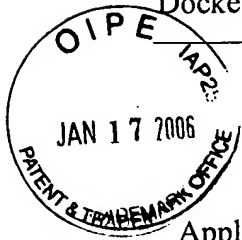
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:
 - (X) Listing 52 references.
 - (X) Enclosing 7 references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.


Sabing H. Lee
Registration No. 43,745
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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Sabing H. Lee, Reg. No. 43,745

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 52 references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed are 7 foreign patent references and/or non-patent literature as listed on the Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required. If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1-13-06

By: 

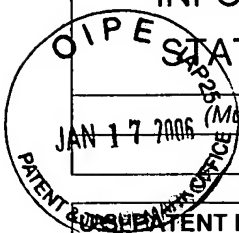
Sabing H. Lee
Registration No. 43,745
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Multiple sheets used when necessary)

SHEET 1 OF 3

Application No.	10/686,603
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Gene P. DiPoto
Art Unit	3731
Examiner	Unknown
Attorney Docket No.	ENDIUS.027CPC1



RELEVANT PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) Example: 1,234,567 B1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	151,228	05-26-1874	Knaffl	
	2	2,083,573	06-15-1937	Morgan	
	3	2,594,086	04-22-1952	Smith	
	4	2,623,517	12-30-1952	Barlow et al.	
	5	3,070,088	12-25-1962	Brahos	
	6	3,509,873	05-05-1970	Karlin et al.	
	7	3,749,088	07-31-1973	Kohlmann	
	8	3,965,890	06-29-1976	Gauthier	
	9	3,998,217	12-21-1976	Trumbull et al.	
	10	4,010,741	03-08-1977	Gauthier	
	11	4,130,113	12-19-1978	Graham	
	12	4,155,355	05-22-1979	Yamamoto	
	13	4,254,763	03-10-1981	McCready et al.	
	14	4,421,107	12-20-1983	Estes et al.	
	15	5,183,464	02-02-1993	Dubrul et al.	
	16	5,231,974	08-03-1993	Giglio et al.	
	17	5,318,588	06-07-1994	Horzewski et al.	
	18	5,345,927	09-13-1994	Bonutti	
	19	5,400,774	03-28-1995	Villalta et al.	
	20	5,503,617	04-02-1996	Jako	
	21	5,505,690	04-09-1996	Patton et al.	
	22	5,573,517	11-12-1996	Bonutti et al.	
	23	5,667,481	09-16-1997	Villalta et al.	
	24	5,681,265	10-28-1997	Maeda et al.	
	25	5,728,046	03-17-1998	Mayer et al.	
	26	5,813,978	09-29-1998	Jako	
	27	5,865,802	02-1999	Yoon et al.	
	28	5,868,668	02-09-1999	Weiss	
	29	5,976,146	11-02-1999	Ogawa et al.	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

T¹ - Place a check mark in this area when an English language Translation is attached.

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	Filing Date	October 15, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Gene P. DiPoto
	Art Unit	3731
(Multiple sheets used when necessary)	Examiner	Unknown
SHEET 2 OF 3	Attorney Docket No.	ENDIUS.027CPC1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) Example: 1,234,567 B1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	30	6,083,154	07-04-2000	Liu et al.	
	31	6,096,046	08-01-2000	Weiss	
	32	6,206,826	03-27-2001	Mathews et al.	
	33	6,224,545	05-01-2001	Cocchia et al.	
	34	6,354,995	03-12-2002	Hoftman et al.	
	35	6,358,266	03-2002	Bonutti	
	36	6,464,634	10-15-2002	Fraser	
	37	6,616,605	09-09-2003	Wright et al.	
	38	6,712,795	03-30-2004	Cohen	
	39	6,800,084	10-05-2004	Davison et al.	
	40	US 2001/0049498 A1	12-06-2001	Davison et al.	
	41	US 2003/0097045 A1	05-22-2003	Kashyap	
	42	US 2003/0191371 A1	10-09-2003	Smith et al.	
	43	US 2004/0002629 A1	01-01-2004	Branch et al.	
	44	US 2004/0093001 A1	05-13-2004	Hamada	
	45	US 2004/0176665 A1	09-09-2004	Branch et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number-Kind Code Example: JP 1234567 A1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ¹
	46	DE 202 16 712 U 1	03-06-2003	Geister Medizintechnik GmbH		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ¹
	47	Atlantis Surgical, Jakoscope® Minimally Invasive Direct Access Surgical Technology, leaflet 1998	
	48	Caspar, Wolfhard, M.D. et al., The Caspar Microsurgical Discectomy and Comparison with a Conventional Standard Lumbar Disc Procedure, Neurosurgery, Vol. 28, Nov. 1, 1991	
	49	Bookwalter Retractor Kit II, by Codman, Johnson & Johnson, 1997	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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(Multiple sheets used when necessary)	Examiner	Unknown
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ¹
	50	Balfour Retractors and Blades Catalog, 1997	
	51	JAKO, G.J. et al., Development of minimally invasive direct access surgical technology, The British Journal of Surgery, Volume 85, Supplement 2, July 1998, pages 208-210 – EuroSurgery 98, Budapest, Hungary, 17-20 June 1998, Blackwell Science	
	52	Manual entitled MED™ - MicroEndoscopic Discrectomy System by Sofamor Danek USA, dated 1996 (11. 1-33)	

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